

2019-2020

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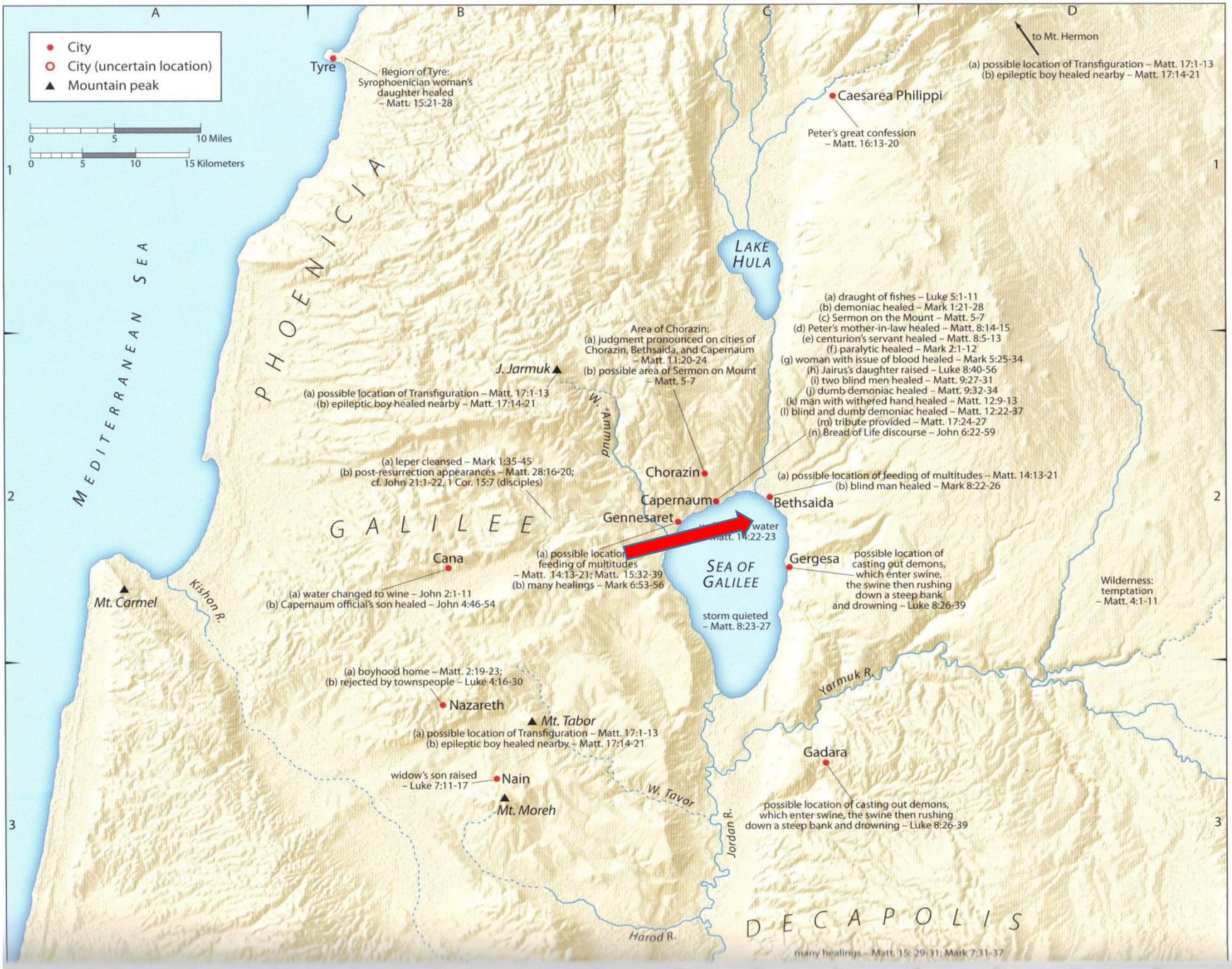
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Matthew 15

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Matthew 15 (Cont)

- **Matthew 15:29-31** *“And Jesus went on from there and passed along the Sea of Galilee...and they glorified the God of Israel”*
 - Jesus returned to Galilee and then went down the Eastern shore (at about 3 o’clock)
 - This area was not far from where Jesus cast the demons into the swine
 - Most of the Eastern shore of the Sea of Galilee consisted of Gentile land
 - Jesus then began to heal the sick because of their faith and they glorified the God of Israel
 - Father pointed out that these were Gentiles who were not glorifying the God of Israel *



Matthew 15 (Cont)

- **Matthew 15:32-39** *“Then Jesus called his disciples to him and said, ‘I have compassion on the crowd,...lest they faint on the way’”*
 - Jesus tells His disciples that he has compassion on the crowd
 - However, the disciples for practical reasons, recommend that He send them away to obtain food
 - Jesus then asks the disciples how much food do they have
 - They respond that they had seven loaves (Seven is the number that represents the Gentiles in the Greek New Testament)

Matthew 15 (Cont)

- We can see seven tribes of the Gentiles were in place when the Hebrews entered into the Promised Land (**Deuteronomy 7:1**)
- Seven in the Hebrew Old Testament represented the Covenant
- But, in the Greek New Testament, the number 4 represents the 4 cardinal directions: North, East, South, and West
- Finally, the word for basket here is *spuris* which was the run of the mill Greek basket
- We will now turn to **Matthew 16**

Matthew 16

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Outline for Matthew 16

- **Matthew 16**
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- The Demand for a Sign
- The Leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees
- Peter's Declaration That Jesus is the Christ
- Jesus Foretells His Death and Resurrection
- The Cross and Self-Denial

Matthew 16

- **Matthew 16:1-12** *“And the Pharisees and Sadducees came, and to test him...but of the teaching of the Pharisees and Sadducees”*
 - Father said that when the *Pharisees* asked Jesus for a sign, He told them to check the weather!
 - This tells us that Jesus was finished dealing with them at this point
 - Then, on the way to the next place, (North) the disciples (who were responsible for the daily needs) realized that they did not have any food for the journey (bread signified food)
 - They were upset with each other for this perceived failure

Matthew 16 (Cont)

- Jesus then asked them why they were so worried about bread (food)
- He reminded them that He was still with them, and that He had fed 5000 Jews
- Then Jesus told them to beware of the “leaven of the Pharisees” rather than bread
- At this point, the *Pharisees* had become the enemy of Jesus and his followers *

Matthew 16 (Cont)

- **Matthew 16:13-15** *“Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi,...’But who do you say that I am?’”*
 - *Caesarea Philippi* was North of the Sea of Galilee and is so far to the North that many modern-day pilgrims to the Holy Land do not visit there
 - It marked the furthest northern point of the tribal boundaries
 - It was as far north as *Dan* in the Old Testament

Matthew 16 (Cont)

- When they got there, Jesus asked the disciples who did people say that the “son of man” is?
- Father reminded us of “son of man” in **Daniel 7:13**
- Again, Matthew’s Jewish audience would have understood this
 - Mark and Luke say, “Who do men say that I am?”
 - That term “son of man” would have certainly confused a Roman or Greek audience
- So the disciples responded:
 - Some say that you are John the Baptist
 - Elijah
 - One of the prophets (like *Jeremiah* who according to **2nd Maccabees 15:15-16** gave the sword to Judas Maccabeus to conquer his enemies) *

Matthew 16 (Cont)

- **Matthew 16:16** *“Simon Peter replied, ‘You are the Christ, the Son of the living God!’”*
 - Jesus was basically asking His disciples who they thought He was
 - Peter, who usually says what he thinks, responded for the group by saying, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God!”
 - Father said that this passage contained a framing device marking the end of the first half of the Gospel, and reminds us of the voice at Jesus’ baptism which said, “Behold my son” (**Matthew 3:16-17**)

Matthew 16 (Cont)

- The Messiah
 - The Spirit of God
 - The anointed one
 - The Christ
- Now, at the end of three years, the disciples, as represented by Peter, were saying “You are the Christ, the Son of God”
 - After three years, they have finally reached the point where they can acknowledge that He was the fulfillment of the voice at Jesus’ baptism *

Matthew 16 (Cont)

- **Matthew 16:17-18** *“And Jesus answered him, ‘Blessed are you Simon Bar-Jonah...the powers of death shall not prevail against it’”*
 - Jesus told His disciples that this was a gift given to them from God
 - Many read this passage and think that it is all about Peter (a Petrine passage), but Father pointed out that it is all about Jesus
 - Everything must be read Christocentrically
 - If we miss the fact that Jesus had been given the title of “Christ” at this point, then we will miss what happened to Peter
 - We might not even understand it at all

Matthew 16 (Cont)

- As we observed when we looked at the Old Testament, God promised David that his own son would build the House of God (**2nd Samuel 7**) and would that he would be the “son of God”
- Jesus as the eternal son of God was adopted into the line of David
- This is the reverse of what was promised in 2nd Samuel 7:10-14
- When Jesus began His building project (the Church), it fulfilled 2nd Samuel 7 which said that the son of David would build the “house”
- Solomon, the son of David, was therefore permitted to build the temple (house of God) and therefore can be seen as a type for the Christ

Matthew 16 (Cont)

- The temple was built as an image of what was to come which was a “type” for the Church
- It was the place where God would dwell among His people on the earth among mankind
- Thus, Jesus says to Peter: *

Matthew 16 (Cont)

- **Matthew 16:19** *“I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven, and what ever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and what ever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven”*
 - Jesus told Peter that He was giving him the keys to heaven (God)
 - The Greek actually says, “Whatever you bind on earth has already been bound in heaven”
 - This means that “what ever you do is in perfect accord with God”
 - Father reminded us that Matthew used this language as a circumlocution for God

Matthew 16 (Cont)

- The *Book of Maccabees* does the same thing as it always depicted *Maccabeus* praying to Heaven as he did not want to use the word for God (Yahweh)
- Translating this from the Greek to English it would say, “What has been bound by you has already been bound by God”
- Your actions are in accord with God’s will
- This language was borrowed from **Isaiah 22:15-25** where we were introduced to the “*al bayith*” who was “over the house”

Matthew 16 (Cont)

- The *al bayith* served as the prime minister of the kingdom
- King David and his descendants had prime ministers who served as a go-between the king and the rest of the ministers
- He was like the head manager in a business
- Peter is given this position among the 12 Apostles
- It is a very special role with a specific title
- Further, to be given the “keys” means that they have the power to lock and unlock the door of the house
- It gives them authority and power over the household
- Jesus was sharing His authority with Peter as the *al bayith**

Matthew 16 (Cont)

- **Matthew 16:20** *“Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ”*
 - This has become known as the “messianic secret”
 - Early in His ministry he had been telling his disciples and others not to tell anyone about who He was
 - When He arrives in Jerusalem, this will no longer be a secret
 - He traveled by boat from one side of the *Sea of Galilee* to the other because He was attempting to establish the “House” for the Lord (His Church)
 - He did not come merely to teach and preach

Matthew 16 (Cont)

- He came to reestablish the Kingdom of God on earth
- Part of this mission was to attract people into communion with Him by preaching, teaching, and performing miracles
- For three years, He had been avoiding the cross by staying away from Jerusalem
- But, He was not avoiding His disciples
- Everywhere He went, He took them with Him
- He was building the temple for the Lord and, as He said, He was the cornerstone and His disciples were the foundation of the temple of the living God

Matthew 16 (Cont)

- They became the men who were going to give us the Faith
- They were the ones who, after His ascension, were going to stand and preach the word
- Thus, this was the time of preparing the disciples for their future mission (a three-year boot camp)
- They had to be educated and ready for that mission
- They had witnessed and experienced what Jesus had done

Matthew 16 (Cont)

- We see the fruits of this in the **Book of Acts**
- So here, Jesus reminds them not to tell anyone that He was the Christ, and this became the Messianic secret
- It was also why they had to keep all this quiet until Jesus goes to Jerusalem

Matthew 16 (Cont)

- **Matthew 16:21** *“From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised”*
 - Father asked that we highlight, **“from that time”**
 - We cannot have the crucifixion without the resurrection
 - Many people believed that Jesus was going to Jerusalem to die
 - But, He was also going to be raised from the dead
 - That was the end game and purpose for the whole thing

Matthew 16 (Cont)

- He was going to Jerusalem to save “us” from death
- He would go through death and come out on the other side so that we will be raised from the dead
- The purpose for His ministry was to conquer sin and death
- Thus, from this time forward, we are going to hear in almost every episode, Jesus reminding His disciples that they were heading to Jerusalem for His death and resurrection
- Father pointed out that they were not listening

Matthew 16 (Cont)

- **Matthew 16:22-24** *“And Peter took him and began to rebuke him,...and take up his cross and follow me”*
 - Peter took Jesus aside and told Him that this could not happen for He would never die
 - Father said that Peter most likely believed that they were going to Jerusalem to kill Herod and kick the Romans out of Israel, and then reign supreme
 - After all, who could conquer Jesus who could walk on water, command the seasons, storms, and winds?
 - Jesus responded to Peter by calling him his “adversary” (Satan means adversary)

Matthew 16 (Cont)

- Jesus told Peter that he was not thinking like God, but like men
- Jesus then told His disciples that if they wanted to follow Him, they were to pick up their “crosses” and follow Him
- Further, that they must be prepared to die in this battle as He was going to Jerusalem where He was going to die

Matthew 16 (Cont)

- **Matthew 16:27-28** *“For the Son of man is to come with his angels in the glory of the Father...in his kingdom”*
 - Jesus was telling His disciples that sometime after this visit to Jerusalem, He would come again with His angels in the glory of the Father, and then repay every man for what he had done
 - He told them that there were some in that group who would not die before they saw the Son of man coming in His kingdom
 - Father asked that we highlight the words: coming, angel, and glory of the father and make a reference to **Matthew 10:23 and 24:30**

Matthew 16 (Cont)

- Father reminded us that Jesus spoke like this three times
- This idea that some would not die before this was fulfilled (meant that it would happen within a generation)
- He was talking about the coming destruction of Jerusalem, when the wrath of God will be expended upon the enemy within one generation of 40 years (in 70 A.D.)